Shoujo AFTERNOON KC

鏡面のシルエット 4

The Silhouette of Specular

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KYOUMEN NO SILHOUETTE
BY YUNA YOSHIKI TAMASE HAGAYAMA
CHAPTER 21

RAW PROVIDER:
TRANSLATOR: KPAPO
PROOFREADER: KPAPO
CLEANER: DIGK40K
REDRAWER: DIGK40K
TYPESETTER: DIGK40K
QUALITY CONTROL: KPAPO

YOOO, ELN-AVIST-AAA!!!
I'VE COME TO VISIT...
... YOU?
AH! IT'S KAGU-RAAA ♪

Chapter 21
Masquerade Wakeup!
Nyaaa
WEL-COME, NYAA ♫
!!
SFX: SPLAT (BIG NOSE BLEED)

HAHAA ...
SO YOU TRIED 'THAT'.
YES ...
I DON'T BLAME YOU.
YOU HAD NO CHOICE.
FOR THIS ONE TO BECOME RULER IT WAS A NECESSARY TEST...
AND AS A RESULT, ELNAVISTA BECAME LIKE THIS... YOU SAY.
RULER?
THAT'S RIGHT !!
ELNA'S GOING TO BECOME A SPLENDID RULER LIKE MY FATHER!
.....

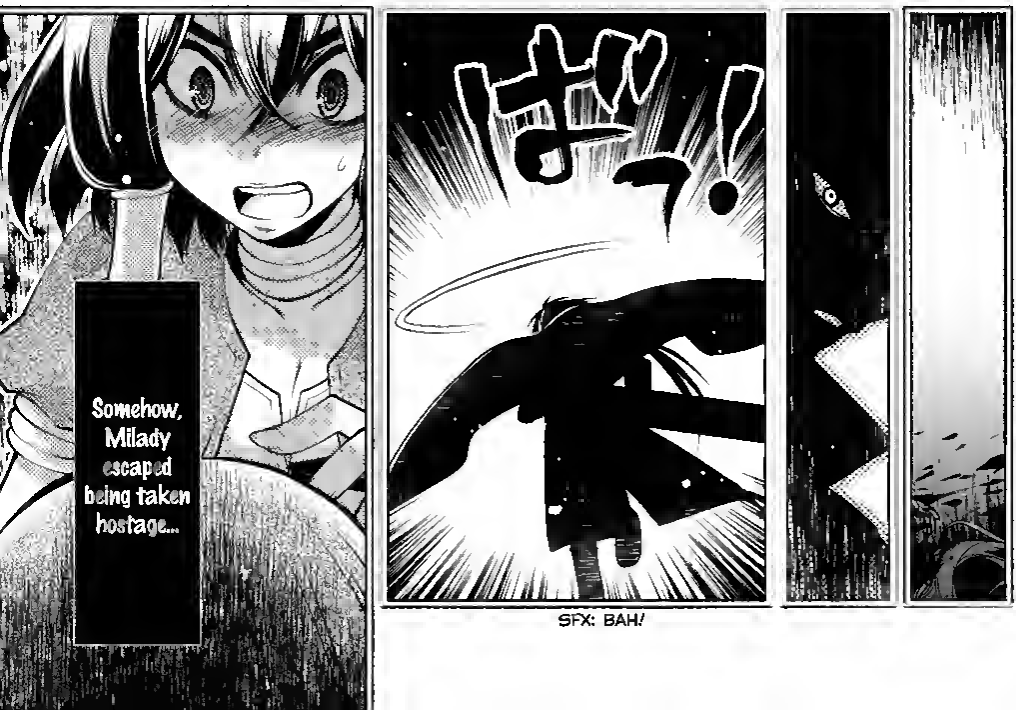
HER HIGHNESS
HER HIGHNESS SAID SHE DIDN'T KNOW ME
BUT REGRESSING TO CHILDHOOD... IT LOOKS LIKE EVEN HER MEMORIES HAVE GONE BACK TO THEN.
WOULDN'T SHE HAVE DOUBTS CAUSED FROM SEEING HOW MY BODY HAS GROWN?
SFX: GLOOM
IT'S RELATED TO THE MENTAL TRAUMA, SO...
SHE PROBABLY SEES THE WORLD TO HER CONVENIENCE.
ALL THE SAME, WE WEREN'T EXPECTING HER TO GO THIS FAR...
AS FOR WHAT WE INCLUDE IN MATTERS FROM HERE ON OUT, AND PUTTING OUR PLANS IN ORDER...
LORD KAGURA, YOU HAVE COME TO OUR AID.
I AM LEAVING HER HIGHESS TO YOU.
...IT CAN'T BE HELPED ...
WELL ...
FROM HERE ON OUT... YEAH.

As it is, well, there's no way that one will become the ruler...
BY THE WAY, EVERYBODY, WHAT'S WITH THOSE CAT EARS?
HER HIGHNESS SPOTTED THEM AT A COSTUME PARTY...
SHE LIKED THEM AND HAS BEEN WEARING THEM EVER SINCE...
WHY DOES THIS KIND OF THING HAPPEN TO ME...?
.....
ALL OF A SUDDEN,
THE STORY HAS GOTTEN TOO HEAVY.

IN...
IN OTHER WORDS.
THE ELDER PRINCE OF THE EMPIRE
MURDERED THE PRINCESS'S MOTHER!?
WHAT'S MORE, THE PRINCESS BEFORE US...
IS HOW SHE IS.
It was ten years ago... near the end of the war between the Empire and the Duchy.
The elder prince played a central part in a raid conducted by the Empire against this palace.
The purpose was thought to be to force an end to the war by taking the Duke's consort and daughter hostage.
While a few of the Empire's...
Special forces penetrated the defenses here.
The Lady Consort quickly understanding the danger, took Milady and tried to escape through the underground passage, but...

The other forces were a decoy, and the commander, the Elder Prince himself was lying in wait.
But it seems even that was foreseen perfectly.

By the time I came running, the Lady Consort was already...
I was perfectly outwitted, too, and was delayed by the initial shock of the attack.


Somehow, Milady escaped being taken hostage...
ばっ!

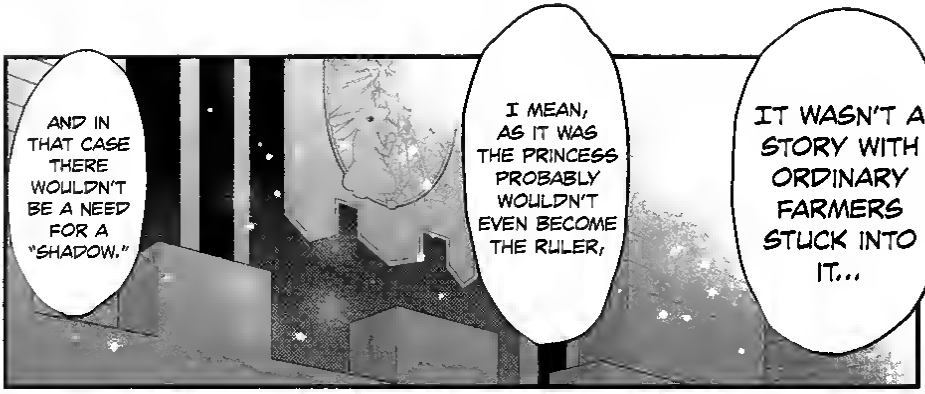
SFX: BAH!

But she took a wound to her heart she could not recover from.
Milady's memories of that time were lost...
NOTHING CAME OF THE ATTEMPTS WE MADE TO CURE HER BY FORCE.
HER MENTAL TRAUMA WAS EXTREMELY DEEP...
HER HEART REJECTED THEM.
ALL THE EXPLANATIONS AND CONFUSION FROM SO MANY DIFFERENT VOICES WERE LOST ON HER.
IF AT THAT TIME,
THERE WERE SERIOUS PROBLEMS DUE TO HER MENTAL TRAUMA, IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO RECOVER FROM IT.
MILADY IS THE ONLY LEGITIMATE SUCCESSOR TO THE DUKE.
IF SHE BECOMES THIS COUNTRY'S RULER, THERE WILL NATURALLY COME TO PASS A CONFRONTATION WITH "HER MOTHER'S MURDERER," THE FIRST PRINCE OF THE EMPIRE.
AS FOR US, FROM AWAITING MILADY'S EMOTIONAL GROWTH WE'VE SWITCHED TO "DEALING WITH IT."
WAS IT NECESSARY TO 'DEAL WITH IT' FROM THE START?
'THAT' IS DEALING WITH IT...?

THE WAY THINGS HAVE TURNED OUT TO THIS POINT...
GAH
MAN
OF COURSE I WONDER IF ELNAVISTA EVEN HAD THE POTENTIAL TO BE A RULER FROM THE START...
SO, IT WAS NECESSARY TO "TEST" HER BEFORE-HAND.
SO THAT SHE MAY BECOME A RULER ABLE TO DEAL WITH THE EMPIRE.
IT WAS NECESSARY FOR HER TO OVERCOME HER MENTAL TRAUMA OF HER OWN POWER.
...AND YET,
EVEN THOUGH I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING HOW MUCH SHE WOULD GROW.
...SUCH BAD LUCK...
Sigh
.....
AS FAR AS MILADY GOES, WE WILL WATCH CAREFULLY FOR A LITTLE WHILE... AND SEE HOW THINGS TURN OUT.
NO MATTER WHAT, WE MUST NOT HURRY.
WHAT'LL WE DO NOW?
OOPS
YOU VOICE HAS GONE BACK UP TO NORMAL.
... LADY NAOE

...IF THERE'S SOMETHING THAT CAN BE DONE,
...I'D LIKE TO GET HER BACK TO NORMAL BEFORE THE LORD ARCHDUKE PASSES AWAY...
HEY
YOU ARE JUST TELLING ME ALL THIS AFTERWARDS.
WHY ...
DID YOU MAKE HER GO WITH ME UNDERGROUND?
I THOUGHT IF YOU WERE THERE, SHE WOULD BE BETTER THAN WITH ANYBODY ELSE.
...THAT WAS ALL.

.....
.....
...WHY IS IT?
BACK AT THE START,
WAS THIS NOT A TALE HAVING NOTHING TO DO WITH ME...?


IT WASN'T A STORY WITH ORDINARY FARMERS STUCK INTO IT...
I MEAN, AS IT WAS THE PRINCESS PROBABLY WOULDN'T EVEN BECOME THE RULER,
AND IN THAT CASE THERE WOULDN'T BE A NEED FOR A "SHADOW."

WHO
ARE YOU?

COURAGE...
TO ME
.....
.....Ah~
..Of course I'm frus-trated as it is!!
カリカリ
SFX. SCRITCH, SCRITCH
YOU GO AND
WHILE YOU KEEP ME INVOLVED WITH YOU,
FORGET ME JUST LIKE THAT!

I WILL MAKE YOU REMEMBER ME...!
AT LEAST TO THE WAY THINGS WERE...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I WONDER, WHAT WILL BECOME OF THIS COUNTRY?
MAYA ...
... WHETHER SHE CHOOSES TO BECOME THE EMPIRE'S DOG, OR TO STRIKE BACK,
THERE'S NO DOUBT THIS COUNTRY WILL BE INVOLVED IN WAR, DON'T YOU THINK...?
BECAUSE WITH LADY ELNAVISTA, THE NEXT RULER, IN HER CURRENT STATE, SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO CHALLENGE THE EMPIRE...
WOULDN'T SHE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO BECOME AN OBEDIENT VASSAL TO THE EMPIRE?

I HATE WAR~
NO!!
WHAT WOULD A CUTE GIRL LIKE ME GO THROUGH AS A PRISONER OF WAR...?
...WELL, THERE ARE PARTIAL DEMANDS...
TALKING LIKE THIS OVER FOOD!
SFX: TWIST
OH MY♡
LORD TESHIO...
AN
SFX: GRAB
HELP ME FOR A BIT, YOU!!!
Ehhh...
I'm Being kidnapped I've Been ooo~
.....
.....
NO WAY... WHAT A PERVERT...

.....
.....
HER HIGHNESS... SHE'S BEEN LIKE THIS A WHILE, BUT THAT MIGHT BE OKAY..
I REALLY HAVEN'T SEEN HER HIGHNESS SO CAREFREE IN A LONG TIME...
SHE'S BEEN RELIEVED OF THE WORRIES OVER HER FATHER'S ILLNESS...
AND OF THE PRESSURE OF BEING THE NEXT RULER,
AND IF THAT BRINGS HER HAPPI-NESS...
HMPH !!
SHE HERSELF OUGHT TO BE PRETTY HAPPY!
BY THE WAY, HOW'S THAT FELLOW TESHIO?
DID HE GET DISGUSTED AND LEAVE?
NO... HE SHOULD STILL BE IN THE PALACE.

THAT 'TESHIO' PERSON IS AWFUL!!
I HARDLY KNOW HIM, BUT I CAN TELL HE'S A BOSSY ONE.
.....
I THOUGHT SHE MIGHT BE ACTING, BUT IT APPEARS I WAS WRONG.
BEING UNABLE TO OVERCOME ONE'S MENTAL TRAUMA...
WAS IT THAT EXTREME, ELNAVISTA LEOPOLDO?
THIS KINGDOM IS ALREADY FINISHED...
SFX: WHAM

SFX: TADAH!
OH!!
TES-HIO ...!
EVEN PERFUME AND MAKEUP... THOUGH I HATE TO SEE MASTER TESHIO LIKE THAT...
THAT'S THE PRINCESS' PERSONAL PARTY DRESS!
I...
NO.
WE!

WE, THE REAL HEIR TO THE THRONE, ELNAVISTA LEOPOLDO, ARE HERE !!!
THIS COUNTER-FEIT IS TO LEAVE AT ONCE!!
HE CAME LIKE THAT～
EH ...!
THERE! GET MAD, PRIN-CESS!!
DO YOU PLAN ON KEEPING YOUR MOUTH SHUT WHEN YOUR OWN SHADOW SAYS THIS MUCH?

EH?
ポロッ
.....
.....
SFX: TEAR FALLING
ぶにゃあ
IT'S BACK-FIRED !?
I'VE BEEN CALLED A COUNTERFEIT BY A COUNTERFEIT ...!!!
あああ
SFX: BUNYAAAAAA
ガッ
は,
SO, SOME-HOW
'SOME-HOW'
おろおろ
LORD TESHIO, THIS IS AWKWARD! SOMEHOW YOU MADE HER WORSE.
SFX: GRAB
SFX: PANICKED

SFX: TAKE THAT!
WILL ...
YOU FORGIVE ME? ♡
NYAA
AAN
SFX: GLOOM
UWA AH
THAT'S GROSS!!
WEIRD !!
A MAN DRESS-ING UP LIKE A GIRL!

EVERY-THING TO NOW HAS BEEN COM-PLETELY DENIED!!!
うわぁぁぁ
WHAT AN AWFUL STATE ～
SFX: DOOR CLOSING
ばたーん
Wahahahaha
YOUR HIGHNESS! TALKING LIKE THAT...
SFX BANG, BANG
Ah..
My stomach hurts
THAT GUY, SPINNING HIS WHEELS LIKE THAT...
BUT EVEN SO, THAT'S ONE BAD ILLNESS...
AS EX-PECT-ED...
IS THERE NOTHING WE CAN DO AS THINGS ARE..?
WHAT I CAN DO FOR HER MAJESTY'S SAKE...

YE...
BRIEFLY...
COMMANDER NAOE!!
IT'S AN EMERGENCY MESSENGER!
A BIG PROBLEM HAS ARISEN!!
SFX: SUDDENLY OPEN
UNHAPPY WITH HOW THINGS ARE RIGHT NOW, THE BORDER DUKE LORD ALFRED HAS CALLED FOR AN ARMED INSURRECTION!
HE WISHES TO SPEAK DIRECTLY WITH THE RULER, OR THE NEXT RULER.
DEPENDING ON WHAT HAPPENS, HE MAY PREPARE FOR REVOLT!
LORD ALFRED...
THAT MAN IS STRONGLY SUSPECTED OF TIES WITH THE EMPIRE.

THE ELDER PRINCE IS STARTING A PROXY WAR... SO TO SPEAK...
HE CARES NOTHING FOR THE CEASE-FIRE.
GOOD GRIEF! HOW ARE WE TO DEAL WITH HIM...?

JEEZ... HER HIGHNESS DOESN'T UNDER-STAND THE WONDERS OF WEARING WOMEN'S CLOTHING!
I HAVEN'T SUNK TO YOUR LEVEL.
I DON'T LIVE WITH YOU...
Mascara streaked by tears

Chapter 21 END